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AUG 21 2006

REMARKS

Applicants thank Examiner Lucas for the helpful telephonic interviews of August 17, 2006 and August 18, 2006 indicating allowability of claims 7-10, 12, 17, 18, 20, and 22. In accordance with the Examiner's request, Applicants have cancelled claims 13-16, which are drawn to a non-elected group, without prejudice. Applicants reserve the right to prosecute the subject matter of the canceled claims in one or more related divisional, continuation, and/or continuation-in-part applications.

Under separate cover, the Applicants concurrently submit the "Statement of Substance of Interview" in response to the Office Communication of July 20, 2006.

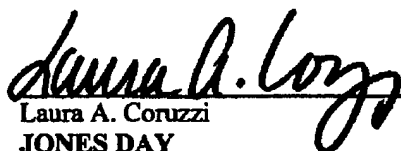
CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully request that the present remarks and amendments be entered and made of record in the instant application. A declaration of an interference with U.S. Patent No. 6,033,886 to Conzelmann is earnestly sought. The Examiner is invited to call the undersigned with any questions or concerns regarding the above.

No fee is believed to be required for this response. However, should any fee be due, please charge the required amount to Jones Day Deposit Account No. 503013.

Respectfully submitted,

Date August 21, 2006

  
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